



# Phil Montgomery

Serving the Communities of Allouez, Ashwaubenon, De Pere and Green Bay

## **Testimony of Representative Phil Montgomery Assembly Committee on Criminal Justice Assembly Bill 603**

Good morning Chairperson Kleefish and committee members, I appreciate the opportunity to submit testimony in support of Assembly Bill 603, relating to the use of a facsimile firearm and providing a penalty.

Recent events have suggested that more crimes are taking place using "facsimile" weapons to threaten unsuspecting victims or law-enforcement officers. Using a facsimile weapon (meaning any replica, toy, starter pistol or other object that bears a reasonable resemblance to an actual firearm) to commit a crime is a serious offence, and I believe stricter penalties should be enforced to reaffirm the seriousness of these types of crimes.

Assembly Bill 603 would increase penalties to a class C felony for a person who commits a crime using a facsimile firearm; and, increase penalties to a Class A misdemeanor, increase fines up to \$10,000; extend incarceration terms for up to nine months, or both, for a person using a facsimile firearm to threaten another person.

Thank you for your consideration.